

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS RELEASE

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GRANT COMPETITION TO ESTABLISH, EXPAND LEARNING CENTERS ANNOUNCED

The Nebraska Department of Education is requesting 2011-2012 proposals to establish or expand community learning centers that provide extended learning opportunities for Nebraska students.

21st Century Community Learning Centers grants support centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities as well as activities that complement the students' regular academic programs.

Overall, about \$1 million in federal funds is available this year to successful Nebraska applicants who offer services to eligible school buildings where at least 40 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced priced meals.

Two types of 21st CCLC grants are available:

1. First-Time Grants for applicants proposing to serve eligible school building populations that have never been served by a 21st CCLC grant, and
2. Continuation Grants for applicants who have successfully implemented 21st CCLC programs for five years and who propose continuing those programs to the same eligible school building populations.

Proposals for the grant competition must be postmarked no later than Feb. 1, 2012. The grant application, other information as well as eligibility requirements and funding priorities are available on the Nebraska Department of Education web site at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/21stcclc/>.

A grant writing workshop for First-Time 21st CCLC Grants will be conducted Fri., Oct. 14, 2011, at 1 p.m., at Nebraska State Office Building, first floor conference room 1Y, in Lincoln. Interested individuals are encouraged to attend this workshop and to invite representatives of community-based organizations that may work collaboratively with them. For additional information, contact Jan Handa, grants manager for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, at: jan.handa@nebraska.gov or at 402.471.0876.